

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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| In the Matter of the Application of |) | |
| Ozark Energy Partners, LLC |) | |
| for a Certificate of Public Convenience and |) | |
| Necessity to Construct and Operate an |) | Case No. GA-2006-0561 |
| Intrastate Natural Gas Pipeline and Gas Utility |) | |
| to Serve Portions of the Missouri Counties of |) | |
| Christian, Stone and Taney, and for |) | |
| Establishment of Utility Rates. |) | |

MOTION TO WITHDRAW

Pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.040 (6), William D. Steinmeier, Mary Ann Young and William D. Steinmeier, P.C. hereby request leave of the Commission to withdraw their appearance as counsel of record for Applicant, Ozark Energy Partners, LLC (OEP). OEP has refused to pay the legal expenses of the firm. Under Supreme Court Rule 4-1.16 (b) (5), an attorney may withdraw from the representation of a client if the client fails substantially to fulfill an obligation to the lawyer regarding the lawyer's services and has been given reasonable warning that the lawyer will withdraw unless the obligation is fulfilled. OEP has been given ample notice of this withdrawal, and we are advised that its Board has authorized this firm to file a motion to withdraw as counsel.

Under Supreme Court Rule 4-1.16 (b) (6), an attorney may withdraw from the representation of a client if the representation will result in an unreasonable financial burden on the lawyer or has been rendered unreasonably difficult by the client. The undersigned have continued to represent OEP for some time, in spite of lack of payment of fees, in order to assure that withdrawal can be

accomplished without material adverse effect on the interests of the client. (S.Ct. Rule 4-1.16 (b) (1).)

Although undersigned counsel were not involved in the negotiations between OEP and Southern Missouri Natural Gas Company that resulted in the Stipulation and Agreement between those parties filed in Case No. GF-2007-0215 on March 27, 2008, we understand that OEP is assigning its existing franchises to SMNG and will no longer pursue the certificate of convenience and necessity that was the subject of the instant case. Thus, permitting counsel to withdraw from further representation should clearly have no adverse effect on OEP. For the reasons stated, undersigned counsel respectfully request leave to withdraw as counsel from this case.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ William D. Steinmeier

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COUNSEL FOR OZARK ENERGY
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document has been served electronically on the General Counsel's Office, the Office of the Public Counsel, and counsel for each party of record, on this 27th day of March 2008.

/s/ William D. Steinmeier

William D. Steinmeier